p सेवा देयताओं की मात्रा को प्रभावित नहीं करते । परन्तु, रुपए के अर्थों में, ऋण सेवा अदायगियों में रुपए के अवमूल्यन या वृद्धि के अनुसार हि वृद्धि या कमी होती है । मार्च, 1997 के अन्त में ओर सितम्बर, 1997 के अन्त में (वह अदयतन तारीख जिसके लिए सूचना उपलब्ध है) विदेशी ऋण की धनराशियां निम्नानुसार है :-

	करोड़ रुपए	मिलियन अमरीकी डॉलर
मार्च, 1997 के अन्त में	331355	92224
सितम्बर, 1997 के अन्त में	336646	92883

विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपनियों का निवेश

663. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी सोलंकी :** क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेगें कि :

(क) क्या कुछ बहुराष्ट्रीय कंपनियां देश में संचार, इस्पात, तेल शोधन ओर विद्युत क्षेत्रों में निवेश करने के लिए इच्छुक हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो, देश में गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र के अंतर्गत आने वाले वे कोन-कोन से औद्योगिक घराने हैं जिन्होंने अब तक ऐसी कंपनियों के साथ द्विपक्षीय समझौते (करार) करने का प्रयास किया है,

(ग) क्या सरकार ने उनके निवेश संबंधी प्रस्तावों में अपनी रुची दर्शायी है, और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में की जा रही कार्रवाई का ब्यौरा क्या है?

वित्त मंत्री (श्री यशवंत सिन्हा) : (क) से (घ) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभापटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।

Steps taken to Boost Economy

664. SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Government have taken to contain sluggishness of the economy, during the last six months;

(b) whether Government propose to depreciate the Rupee; and

(c) if not, steps taken by R.B.I, to arrest forces which could lead to depreciation of Rupee?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) Major policies taken by the Government during the last six months include Export Import Policy, 1997-2002 revised on April 13, 1998 which has further expanded- the list of Open General Licence (OGL) items by shifting 340 items from the restricted category to the OGL; monetary and credit policy measures for the first half of 1998-99 leading to reduction in bank rate to 9 per cent and ensuring credit availability commensurate with the growth potential and; supply side measures relating to industrial and investment policies and facilitating private investment in infrastructure and easing infrastructure constraints.

(b) and (c) The exchange rate of the Rupee is market determined. The exchange rate developments are monitored on a day to day basis by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), and measures are taken as and when necessary, to maintain orderly market conditions. RBI has ensured orderly conditions in the market.

Panel on Issue of Converting Rupee Debt into Hard Currency Loan

665. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up a two member inter counting panel to look into the issue of converting India's outstanding rupee debt into hard currency loan and if so, whether it has submitted its report to Government;

(b) if so, furnish details thereof;

(c) details regarding present status of decision taken; and

(d) whether Government have received

some proposals in this regard and reaction of the Indo-Russian Panel thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Docs not arise.

(d) A proposal was made by the RussianGovernment suggestig consultations be held to work out a revised basis for repayment of state credits granted by the former USSR and the Russian Federation on a mutually acceptable basis. However, the question of reaction of an Indo-Russian Panel thereto does not arise in view of (a).

Special court for security scam Related Cases

666. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that a special court to dispose off security scam related cases was set up; and

(b) if so, how many cases were charged and disposed off so far and the details of the funds recovered which were lost by various banks and financial institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI R. JANARTHANAM): (a) A Special Court was set up in 1992 under the provisions of Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities) Act, 1992 for trial of offences relating to transactions in securities and the matters connected therewith.

(b) Office of the Custodian have reported that 104 suits and 31 criminal cases were filed between 1992 and 1998 (upto 31st March, 1998). Out of these, 37 suits and 3 criminal cases have so far been disposed off.

The value of attached properties of 41 out of 52 persons notified under the Act as at July 1997 prices is Rs. 3037 crores. The Custodian has filed applications before the Special Court praying directions of the Court to enforce disclosure of assets by the remaining 11 notified persons. The Special Court has passed orders directing these parties to disclose their assets. The claims lodged by the banks, financial institutions and others with the CustodiatvSpecial Court against Harshad Mehta Group, Dalai Group and Fairgrowth Financial Services are to the tune of Rs. 3478.93 crores.

Tax Collections under VDIS

667. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total tax collections under VDIS upto 31st December, 1997, State-wise and the share of each State devolved from the collected amount;

(b) whether Government propose to continue VDIS during the year 1998-99; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI R. JANARTHANAM): (a) The VDIS, 1997 envisaged payment of taxes upto 31.3.98. The information regarding total collection under VDIS till 31.3.98 is maintained, Chief Commissioner of Income-tax charge-wise. The information is given in statement-I *(see* below)

A statement showing State-wise share of the proceeds of VDIS, 1997 is given in Statement-II *(See* below)

(b) and (c) It will not be proper to furnish any information on the subject in view of budget secrecy.